

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Original) A vehicle back shelf (1) that is movable between an in-use position in which it is disposed substantially horizontally between a rear partition (2) of the vehicle cabin and a front edge (3) of a rear trunk lid (4), and a retracted position in which it is disposed in such a manner as to leave space between the rear partition (2) and the front edge (3) of the lid (4) and allow a folding roof (5) to pass therethrough, the back shelf (1) comprising a central plate (6) and two side plates (7) each of which is movable relative to the central plate (6), the back shelf being characterized in that it includes means (8) suitable for controlling and guiding the sliding of each of the side plates (7) relative to the central plate (6) substantially in the transverse direction (19) of the vehicle in both directions between a deployed position and a retracted position in which each side plate (7) is substantially retracted under the central plate (6).

2. (Original) A back shelf (1) according to claim 1, characterized in that the means (8) adapted to enable the side plates (7) to slide comprise at least one threaded rod (9) extending in the transverse direction (19) of the vehicle under the central plate (6), means (11) adapted to rotate the threaded rod (9) about its axis (12), means (10) adapted to secure the threaded rod (9) to the central plate (6), and for each side plate (7), a nut (13) secured to the corresponding side plate (7), and adapted to cooperate with the thread rod in such a manner as to drive the corresponding side plate (7) in translation during rotation of the threaded rod (9).

3. (Original) A back shelf (1) according to claim 2, characterized in that each side plate (7) includes a drive zone (14) which is disposed underneath the central plate (6) when the side plate (7) is in the deployed position.

4. (Original) A back shelf (1) according to claim 3, characterized in that each nut (13) is fixed to the drive zone (14) of the corresponding side plate (7).

5. (Currently amended) A back shelf (1) according to ~~any one of~~ claims 2 ~~to~~ 4, characterized in that smooth bearing (16) forming a support (10) for the corresponding end (9a) of the threaded rod (9) is fixed in the vicinity of each of the side edges (17) of the central plate (6).

6. (Original) A back shelf (1) according to claim 5, characterized in that each smooth bearing (16) is arranged and shaped in such a manner as to form a slot (20) adapted to pass the corresponding transverse edge (21) of the side plate (7).

7. (Original) A back shelf (1) according to claim 6, characterized in that each smooth bearing (16) is fixed along a transverse edge (24) of the central plate (6) and is substantially L-shaped, comprising a foot (16a) fixed to said edge (24) and a body (16b) extending under the central plate (6) substantially parallel thereto towards the inside thereof from the foot (16a) so as to form the receiving the end (9a) of the screw (9) and constituting the smooth bearing proper.

8. (Currently Amended) A back shelf (1) according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, characterized in that the central plate (6) includes at least one groove (22) extending in the sliding direction (19) and adapted to receive in translation a corresponding transverse edge (23) of each of the side plates (7).